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### **VOLUME 3 GENERAL TECHNICAL ADMINISTRATION**

## CHAPTER 32 MANUALS, PROCEDURES, AND CHECKLISTS FOR 14 CFR PARTS 91K, 121, 125, AND 135

## Section 14 Review the Operator's Mechanical Interruption Summary for Parts 121 and 135

# 3-3430 PROGRAM TRACKING AND REPORTING SUBSYSTEM (PTRS) ACTIVITY CODES.

A. Maintenance: 3322.

**B.** Avionics: 5322.

**3-3431 OBJECTIVE.** This section provides guidance for monitoring an operator's fleet performance by tracking mechanical irregularities that occur during scheduled operations.

**3-3432 GENERAL.** Operators are required by Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 121, § 121.705 and part 135, § 135.417 to submit a monthly Mechanical Interruption Summary (MIS). This report enables the inspector to evaluate the effectiveness of the operator's maintenance and manual procedures.

#### A. Requirement for Reporting Mechanical Irregularities.

- 1) Sections 121.563 and 135.65 require each certificate holder to provide an aircraft maintenance log for recording or deferring mechanical irregularities, as applicable, and the subsequent corrective actions performed. This log must be carried onboard each aircraft.
- 2) The operator's manual should provide a method where the pilot in command (PIC) will inform the operator of mechanical irregularities or defects that appear before, during, and after a flight. The operator uses this information to let the maintenance personnel know of any suspected problems so that they can perform the appropriate corrective action. This method of reporting is the basis for the required Service Difficulty Reports (SDR) and MIS.
- **B.** Role of the Aviation Safety Inspector (ASI). Following the receipt of an operator's MIS, the ASI must evaluate the information for problem areas and significant trends. If a problem area or trend is evident, the inspector must decide on a course of action to investigate and/or correct the problem as necessary.
- **C. Obtaining Additional Information.** The ASI may need to obtain more information than that available on the MIS. Possible sources of information include:
  - Contact with the operator,
  - Research of previous MIS and inspection reports, or
  - Investigation of the operator's recent enforcement history for related violations.

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**D.** Analysis and Findings. Once the ASI has gathered the necessary data, he or she must analyze the findings to define the cause of the problem and determine a course of corrective action. Possible actions include:

- A review of SDRs;
- Inspecting aircraft, facilities, or products to ensure they meet minimum standards;
- Investigating for possible regulatory noncompliance;
- Recommending procedural changes to the operator's manual(s); or
- Filing an Enforcement Investigative Report (EIR).

## 3-3433 PREREQUISITES AND COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS.

## A. Prerequisites:

- Knowledge of the regulatory requirements of parts 121 and 135, as applicable.
- Familiarity with the operator's procedures manual.
- Successful completion of the Airworthiness Inspector Indoctrination course for General Aviation (GA) and air carrier inspections, or previous equivalent.
- **B.** Coordination. This task may require coordination with other airworthiness ASIs.

### 3-3434 REFERENCES, FORMS, AND JOB AIDS.

#### A. References (current editions):

- Advisory Circular (AC) 20-109, Service Difficulty Program (General Aviation).
- Sections 121.703 and 121.705.
- Section 135.417.
- **B. Forms.** None.
- C. Job Aids. None.

#### 3-3435 PROCEDURES.

- **A. Analyze the Content of the Report.** Review the MIS.
  - 1) Coordinate with the appropriate specialty for analysis.
  - 2) Determine if any item on the MIS requires further action.
- **B.** Conduct Research. To determine the course of action and the severity of the problem, accomplish the following, as necessary:
  - 1) Contact the operator for additional information to help establish the following:
    - Were proper maintenance procedures followed?
    - Have appropriate corrective actions been taken?

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2) Review previous MISs to detect trends or irregularities that may indicate problem areas in maintenance procedures, operational procedures, or the operator's training.

- 3) Review previous inspection reports, correspondence, and other documents in the office files to determine if problem areas that relate to MISs have been identified.
- **4)** Examine the operator's recent enforcement history to determine if there are any related violation actions.
- **C. Analyze Findings.** Based on the information obtained, determine an appropriate course of action.
- **D. Debrief Operator.** Discuss with the operator all significant items identified on the MIS. Discuss corrective actions and, if necessary, inform the operator that a letter will follow to confirm the items discussed.

#### 3-3436 TASK OUTCOMES.

- A. Complete the PTRS Record.
- **B.** Complete the Task. Completion of the task may result in the following:
  - A formal letter to the operator confirming the results of the analysis;
  - A change in the operator's maintenance or manual procedures; or
  - An EIR.
- **C.** Task Documentation. File the MIS in the operator's district office file according to office procedures.
- **3-3437 FUTURE ACTIVITIES.** Followup inspections to ensure compliance, as required.

**RESERVED.** Paragraphs 3-3438 through 3-3440.